Can we start over?

How parent-school partnerships can build better behaviour

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DELIVERING FOR QUEENSLAND

Queensland Government

Acknowledgement of Country

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands, seas, skies and waterways from across Queensland and Victoria. I pay my respect to the Elders past and present for they hold the memories, traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A better understanding and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures develops an enriched appreciation for Australia's heritage and can lead to reconciliation. This is essential to the maturity of Australia as a nation and fundamental to the development of an Australian identity.

The home-school relationship

Why it matters to me…

- Desperately complex
- Hugely important
- Critical for student engagement
- EPIC Report (QISPN, 2023)

- On Monday 27th July in the afternoon session you were oppositional and defiant when you refused to follow instructions, took an iPad off a student and threw it on the ground. This resulted in property damage.
- You used maladaptive behaviours when you kicked and spat at the student which resulted in spit going in her mouth.
- You were defiant and disruptive when you were refusing to follow instructions when trying to access an out of bounds area. This resulted in high levels of disruption to your peers.
- You were then physically aggressive when you threw various items around the room.
- In an attempt to support you, the teacher aide got down to your eye level and used appropriate communication methods to ask what you needed to help you. You then became physically aggressive when you slapped the teacher aide across the face with force.

Changing times: 2006-today

Homes

- Both parents working
- Grandparents working
- Disability more prominent
- Digital reliance
- Static communication
- Institutional trust

Classrooms

- Curriculum demand
- Student complexity
- Administrative burden
- Parent expectations
- Teacher mental health
- Teacher retention

School systems

- We have an app for that


SKOOL LOOP
WhatsApp
Munch MONITOR
IDAttend

What happens when communication systems fail?

Families

- Communication barriers
- Reduced trust
- Escalation and complaints

Schools

- Delayed or inappropriate supports
- Higher frequency and intensity of behaviours

Increased OVA

Students

- Patterns of dysregulation
- Disciplinary action
- Poor self-concept

School disengagement

Power, protection and parent violence

True

Staff deserve safety

Violence is unacceptable

Schools need hard boundaries

Also True

Families deserve genuine partnership

Most conflict begins much earlier

School approaches also need redesign

At the same time governments are strengthening laws to protect teachers from abusive parent behaviour, we also must ask: ***why is this happening, and what can we do earlier to prevent relationships reaching this point?***

So what does better look like?

Proactive

- Effective enrolment strategies
- Genuine consultation
- Early invitations
- Transparency

Responsive

- Fit-for-purpose
- Timely
- Digitally-enabled
- Searchable information
- Conversational access
- Filters for relevance

Inclusive

- Culturally-safe
- Translated content
- Plain language
- Disability accessible
- Codesigned with parents
- Elder and community consultation

Where does AI fit?

~~Replace the relationship~~ → **Remove unnecessary barriers to the relationship**

hearmeout.org.au



Families are changing.
Technology is changing.

Families are changing.
Technology is changing.

Thank you!

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